GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1549
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000
LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR SAFETY IN OFFSHORE PETROLEUM OPERATIONS
RAMESH CHAND TOMAR

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether no legal framework exist for regulating safety in offshore petroleum operations in the country though petroleum operations in the country`s offshore areas are going on for the last three decades;

(b) If so, the reasons for not taking any action to establish such framework for so long; and

(c) The time by which the Government would take steps to establish safety regulatory framework for offshore petroleum operations ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)
(a),(b)&(c): Safety of petroleum operations is regulated under Oil Mines Regulations, 1984, framed under the Mines Act 1952.These regulations apply to onshore areas and upto Territorial Waters of the country. Further, the safety of operations in all offshore fields by Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and private/joint venture companiess regulated by them in accordance with international safety practices and norms. The arrangements are also overseen by Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under Ministsry of Labour, Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) and Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH), working under Ministry of Petroleur & Natural Gas. Upgradation of regulatory systems & processes, based on international developments and other inputs, is a continuous endeavour and no specific time period can be indicated for this ongoing process.